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International drug control

Realignment of the functions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and changes to the strategic framework

Note by the Secretariat

By its resolution 2010/21 of 22 July 2010, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Realignment of the functions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and changes to the strategic framework

The General Assembly,

Recalling section XVI, paragraph 2, of its resolution 46/185 C of 20 December 1991, in which it entrusted certain administrative and financial functions to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling also Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/14 of 2 December 2009,[1]

Recalling further the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2010-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[2]

Having regard to the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the changes required to the strategic framework and their implications for the Office and for the allocation of resources to the subprogrammes of the programme of work, and on the establishment of an independent evaluation unit and the sustainability of the Strategic Planning Unit of the Office,[3]

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8A* (E/2009/28/Add.1), chap. I.
[2] E/CN.7/2009/14-E/CN.15/2009/24.
[3] E/CN.7/2010/13-E/CN.15/2010/13.

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Recalling its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, entitled "Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011", in paragraph 85 of which it expressed concern regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and requested the Secretary-General to submit proposals in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 to ensure that the Office had sufficient resources to carry out its mandate,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the changes required to the strategic framework and their implications for the Office and for the allocation of resources to the subprogrammes of the programme of work, and on the establishment of an independent evaluation unit and the sustainability of the Strategic Planning Unit of the Office,[3] and welcomes the measures taken to develop a thematic and regional programme approach to the programme of work of the Office;

2. *Notes* the anticipated efficiency gains resulting from the proposed realignment, which responds, in particular, to recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat, and looks forward to seeing those efficiency gains reflected in the budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

3. *Also notes* that the realignment will not require any change to the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011 and that the thematic and regional programme approach will be reflected in the proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013;

4. *Further notes* that the proposed realignment shall contribute to improving the technical assistance programmes and activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

5. *Notes* that the proposed realignment will not diminish the current status of any of the activities promoted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

6. *Recalls* that, in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/14 of 2 December 2009,[1] the Commission decided that the consolidated budget for the biennium 2010-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime should contain adequate provisions for the establishment of a sustainable, effective and operationally independent evaluation unit, and urges the Secretariat to swiftly implement that decision and commence with the re-establishment of the independent evaluation unit without further delay;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to ensure the sustainability of the Strategic Planning Unit, consistent with the importance of its functions;

8. *Notes* that the reinstatement of the post of Chief of the Policy Analysis and Research Branch at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, at the D-1 level, should be considered only after sufficient funding has been made available for the independent evaluation unit and the Strategic Planning Unit;

9. *Takes note*, in the preceding context, of the realignment of the Division for Treaty Affairs and the Division for Operations of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and encourages it as an important step in the process of continuous improvement of the Office;[4]

10. *Highlights* the importance of providing legal assistance for drug control and crime prevention and the need to link the provision of such assistance to the work of the Integrated Programme and Oversight Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

11. *Notes with concern* the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

12. *Urges* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to ensure that the Office submit to the Secretary-General a proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 that appropriately reflects the financial needs of the Office;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013, to devote due attention to the resource requirements for meeting the mandates entrusted to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, taking into account the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[5] with particular focus on under-resourced areas;

14. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the realignment of the Division for Treaty Affairs and the Division for Operations.

[4] E/CN.7/2010/13-E/CN.15/2010/13, paras. 1-3 and 35.

[5] A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A.